

GENERAL REMARKS

Claims 1 - 11 were in the application as originally filed. In the Office Action, all of the claims have been rejected under 37 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by the U.S. Patent to Pariseau 6,579,006. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection, based on the amended claims as set forth herein and the following remarks.

Pariseau is directed to thermochromic methods and devices for use relative to a product container. Applicants respectfully agree that Pariseau is directed to subject matter corresponding in substantial part to the subject matter of Applicants' invention.

However, in FIG. 10, which was specifically noted by the Examiner, the Pariseau lid of the container specifically employs first, second and third image displays 12, 14 and 16. These image displays overlie an image display region of a substrate layer 13. The third image display 16 is applied above the second image display 14, while the second image display 14 is above the first image display 12. The second and third image displays comprise layers of thermochromic materials.

In contrast, Applicants' invention as set forth in the claims does not require the same complexity of image displays. To clarify Applicants' invention, claim 1 has been amended. More specifically, claim 1 defines a temperature indicating apparatus for use with a liquid container and a lid, whereby recessed means are associated with a planar surface of the lid. The recessed means include a temperature threshold means for indicating the temperature of a liquid contacting the threshold means. To clarify Applicants' invention, claim 1 has been amended so as to expressly define the temperature threshold means as consisting of a single device on which a chemical is formulated, to change color when the liquid that contacts the threshold means

reaches a threshold temperature. Applicants respectfully submit that the application as originally filed provides adequate support for these amendments to claim 1. For example, this language substantially corresponds to the language set forth in the original Abstract. Applicants respectfully submit that Pariseau neither teaches nor suggests such a single device having a chemical formulated thereon. Pariseau teaches multiple thermochromic devices. For these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 as amended is not anticipated by Pariseau.

Each of claims 2 - 11 is directly or indirectly dependent from claim 1, and incorporates all limitations thereof. For the reasons previously set forth herein that claim 1 as amended is not anticipated by Pariseau, Applicants respectfully submit that the dependency of claims 2 - 11 from claim 1 results in Applicants' invention as defined in these dependent claims not being anticipated by Pariseau.

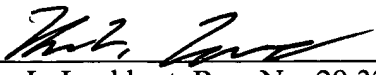
Still further, claim 11 defines the concept that the recessed means are configured so that the lids are stackable for shipping and storage. Applicants respectfully submit that Pariseau does not teach or suggest this feature of lids disclosed in Pariseau. For this further reason, Applicants respectfully submit that Applicants' invention as defined in claim 11 is not anticipated by Pariseau.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 - 11, as amended, are now in condition for allowance and early notification is respectfully requested. Should any questions arise in connection with the above, please contact Thomas L. Lockhart at the telephone number of 616/336-6000.

Respectfully submitted,

KIM A. SENA; MARK A. McKITRICK;
SUZANNE R. SENA

Dated: October 2, 2006

By 
Thomas L. Lockhart, Reg. No. 29,324
VARNUM, RIDDERING, SCHMIDT & HOWLETT LLP
Bridgewater Place
333 Bridge Street
Post Office Box 352
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501-0352
(616) 336-6000

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